



## Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

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<b>Event Name</b>	Fertilizer Plant Explosion SITREP #7
<b>Date</b>	04/22/2013
<b>Time</b>	04/21/2013, 1900 Hours - 04/22/13, 1900 Hours
<b>Operational Period</b>	0700-1900
<b>Report Number</b>	#7

### Regions Affected

<b>DPS Regions Affected</b>	Region 6
<b>DDC's Active</b>	Waco 11/23

### STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

At approximately 7:50 pm on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 the State of Texas received a report of an explosion in North Central Texas at the West Fertilizer plant in the city of West, McLennan County. Due to health and safety concerns, evacuation of a significant portion of the community was conducted. The fire at the plant was extinguished; significant damage was reported to structures within several blocks of the plant, including a middle school, nursing home, numerous residences, and businesses. An inner and outer perimeter has been established around the site of the incident; however, perimeter size adjustments were made as planning for re-entry began. The Incident Command Post (ICP) and DDC have relocated to the West High School and is operational. The State Operations Center has returned to Level III (Increased Readiness) however, continues to support additional assistance as required. Governor Perry has issued a proclamation, declaring a state of disaster in McLennan County. The State Management Team (SMT) demobilized. Preliminary damage assessments are ongoing. Resources continue to be demobilized as the event transitions from a response operation to a recovery and re-entry operation. Zone A between Oak and Walnut is being patrolled; however, residents are allowed re-entry without identification. Zone B between Walnut and Spring was opened 042113 with limited access. Identification is required for access. There remains no access into Zone C above Spring, which was most affected by the blast.

**Please note that today's and future SITREPs on this event will only include assets/resources that still are deployed or are active. Resources, personnel, equipment released and/or demobilized have been or will be removed.**

Local officials report the remains of 14 individuals were recovered from the blast area as of Sunday, 04/21/13. Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS) are providing American Sign Language Interpreters. The Department of State Health Services (DSHS) is maintaining situational awareness and supporting the State Operations Center and State Medical Operations Center.

Provided below is the latest report of Patient Care:

<b>Name</b>	<b># Seen</b>	<b>Treated &amp; Released</b>	<b>Transferred Out</b>	<b>Admitted</b>	<b>Discharged</b>
Hillcrest	130	66		28	3
Providence	69	51		18	17
Hill Regional	42	39	3		
Scott and White	3			3	
McLane Children's - Temple	2			2	
Methodist Dallas	1			1	
Children's Dallas	1			1	
JPS Ft. Worth	3			3	3
Parkland Burn Center (DFW)	2			2	
On scene at Community Center 4/18 (not documented)	10	10			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>23</b>



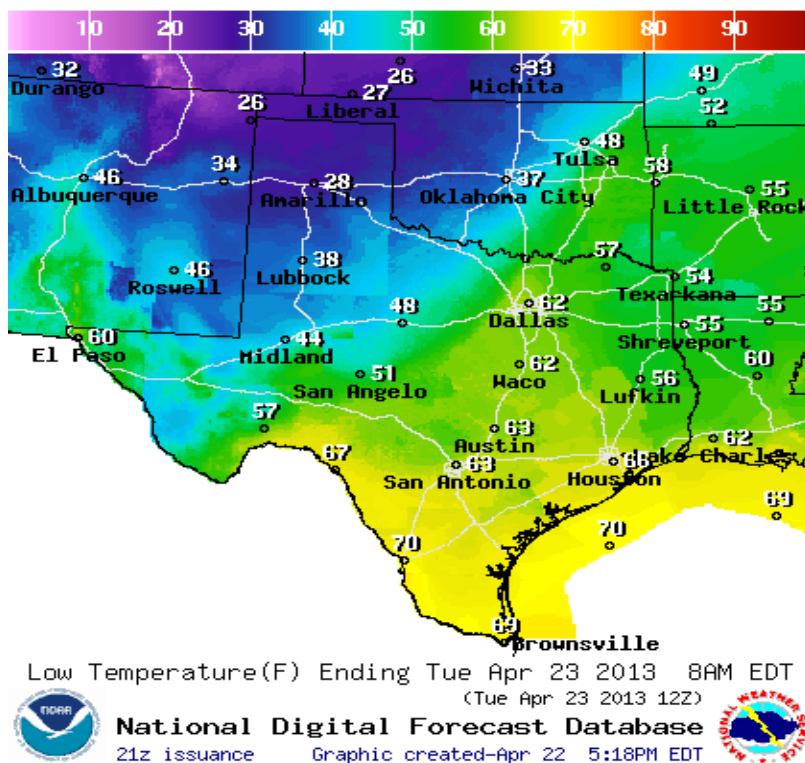


## **INFRASTRUCTURE:**

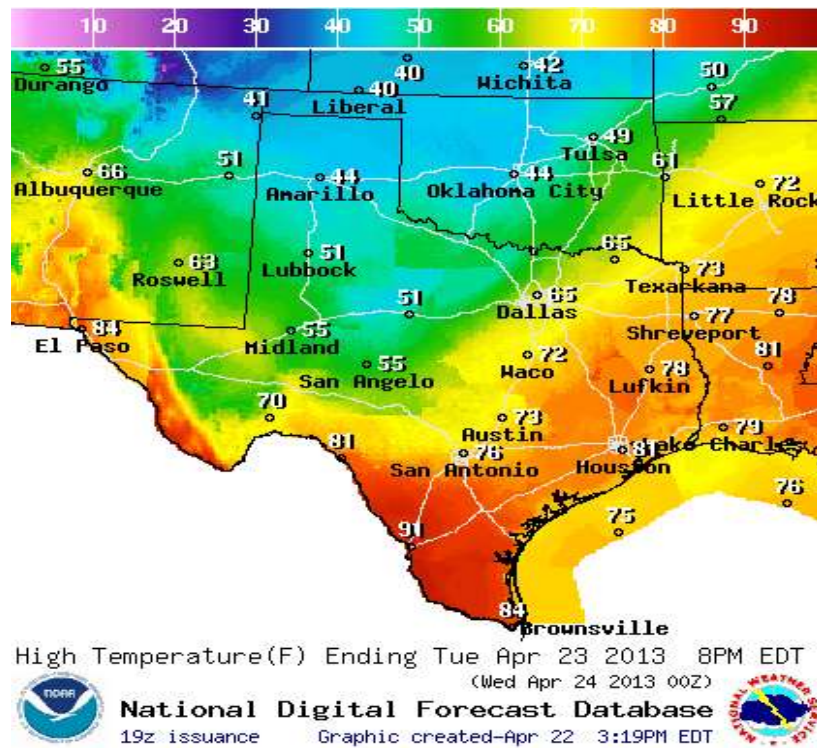
Oncor electric facilities were impacted by the explosion. Repair of a major transmission line is complete. Some customers are unable to receive power because structural damage has made power restoration hazardous in some locations. Oncor is working closely with local emergency management officials. The process to restore power will begin as inspections are conducted to ensure there is no safety issues associated with the restoration to those structures capable of receiving power. Damage to the public water system main delivery line has resulted in no water in the heavily impacted areas and low water pressure in other areas of the city. Water pressures in the southern portions of city have been restored. The northern portions of the city may be without water for an estimated up to three weeks. A boil water notice remains in place. TxDOT has assessed roadways up through the hot zone yesterday. Roadways north of Spring St. remain a concern. Debris has been removed from secondary roads. Utilities are available to areas outside of the affected area, but electricity is restored to all impacted areas. Gas service will not be restored until Atmos Energy is confident that restoration can be conducted safely.



**WEATHER:** The big impacts will be the cold front that is expected to pass through West Tuesday morning to noon. The winds will shift from south to north and northwest. Wind speeds of 20 mph are likely with gusts of 25 - 30 mph along the front. There is a 30% - 40 % chance of rain/thunderstorms Tuesday night. The wind chill values on Wednesday have not been explicitly forecast since we are in late April and wind chill values do not get down into the critical range this time of year. However, based on a low temperature of 40 degrees (lowest possible temperature), and a wind speed of 25 mph, a wind chill value as low as 29 degrees F is possible in West on Wednesday. The graphics below show the High and Low temperatures expected on Tuesday.







## OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Transition to Recovery.
2. Maintain communication with local officials.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve timely decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

## REGION 6 (DDCs 11, 23)

**American Red Cross (ARC):** Continues to coordinate with local officials to provide support and responded to provide feeding support. On 04/20/13 ARC housed 50 volunteers from a group that will be assisting in the transportation of the remaining First Responders. Three ERVs and three chapter vehicles are providing canteen services within West, primarily to first responders within the exclusion zone. Transitioning from the HEB kitchen, which is leaving today (Monday) to the local VFW kitchen. Two ARC ERVs are in the area providing canteen and bulk support to residents. DMH and DHS workers are working with clients both in the general community, at the Joint Assistance Center (JAC) and within the area opened for re-entry/re-population. DMH collaborated with Heart of Texas MHMR to discuss future services after the DRO returned to Chapter. ARC is gathering information to provide outreach to those families affected by fatalities. Fifteen caseworkers provided casework at the JAC. Three caseworkers provided outreach at area hotels. ARC is the lead in managing the JAC. TSA, Tzu Chi, UMCOR, Legal Aid, Social Security Administration and Veteran's Affairs also are participating at the JAC. ARC is providing continuous coverage at the city's ICP, and participating in relief planning meetings with local government officials and community organizations.

	PERIOD	TO DATE
Client Shelters	0	1
Shelter Over Night Stays	0	0
Fixed Feeding Sites	0	1
Bulk Distribution Sites	1	1
Meals Served	175	725
Snacks Served	90	1390
Mobile Feeding Units	3	4
Bulk Items Distributed	912	1112
Health Services Contacts	84	197
Mental Health Contacts	75	128

**McLennan County:** Request for Emergency Declaration and Disaster Summary Outline submitted.

**City of West:** The City of West has declared a state of disaster. Local officials are working to reduce the area currently restricted from access and have begun planning for re-entry. The curfew remains in place as does the boil water notice. Planning for long-term fire and emergency medical services for the community is also being conducted. Presently, neighboring community volunteer fire departments are providing temporary assistance. Law enforcement support to the community continues to be provided by the McLennan County Sheriffs Office, DPS and Highway Patrol, and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. Two shelters remain open with zero occupancy.

Classes resumed this morning and local government also resumed operations although it was unclear whether or not local government offices were open.

Council of Governments (COG) emergency preparedness staff will provide assistance to local government for approximately two weeks, the type of which will be determined at a city council meeting today (Sunday).

Preliminary damage assessments are ongoing. Estimates are that 350 homes were impacted. Of these, 296 are single-family; 50 are multi-family; and 4 are mobile homes. Of the 350 homes impacted, 142 were destroyed; 51 sustained major damage; 27 sustained minor damage; and 130 were affected. (*See table below.*) A disaster declaration for Individual Assistance (IA) only as the city has not been able to assess major damage to its infrastructure or systems. Public Assistance damage assessments will be conducted when city officials are ready, and this will be a supplement to the current IA request. TDEM Recovery staff also were deployed to assist with paperwork.

Damages/Current Assessment																
Jurisdiction	Homes				Businesses				Government				Other			
	D	Maj.	Min.	A	D	Maj.	Min.	A	D	Maj.	Min.	A	D	Maj.	Min.	A
West	142	51	27	130												

- ❖ Identify Number of Each by Destroyed (D), Major (Maj.), Minor (Min), Affected (A)
- ❖ A total of 350 homes were impacted (296 were single family, 50 were multi-family and 4 were mobile homes)

**Disaster District Committee (DDC) Waco:** The DDC is fully activated and continues to identify unmet needs and provide coordination of state resources assigned to the DDC. The DDC is in the process of identifying unneeded state resources and demobilizing them. The DDC and Incident Command Post have relocated to West High School on Jerry Mashek Drive. This includes DPS Communications, Texas A&M Forest Service and AT&T.

**Local Public and Mental Health:** Developing re-entry Crisis Behavioral Health Plan with DSHS, MHMR, Waco Public Health, and volunteer agencies. Determining possible needs for families involved with re-entry.

**Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS) Office of Media and Communications:** DPS Media Sergeant and Safety Education Service Troopers continue to provide coordination with the Media and Communications Office at DPS HQ to assist in providing updated information to the media and situational awareness to the public. DPS Communications is providing dispatch services for West.

**Mass Care Operations:** Volunteer agencies are scaling back operations as the focus shifts from response to recovery and Individual Assistance. Working to establish a Long-Term Recovery Committee.

**The Salvation Army:** The Salvation Army has prepared 574 hot and cold meals; served 539 drinks; and 335 snacks. Spiritual care has been provided to 22 individuals. There are a total of 110 officers, employees and volunteers engaged. Canteens remain deployed at the Joint Assistance Center, Community Center, Command Post and in the affected neighborhoods. Canteen operations are expected to continue for at least one week. Collection of donated items is at the TSTC student center. Comfort stations will be set up to assist individuals returning home. Preliminary damage assessments indicated 73 homes destroyed; 59 sustained major damage; 78 sustained minor damage and 61 affected.

**Southern Baptists of Texas Convention (SBTC):** Shower/Laundry units have been established in West. Cleanup and recovery with operations/assessments are responding to assist families in cleaning their homes of ash and debris. Chaplaincy and feeding operations continue. SBTC Disaster Relief is coordinating with local firefighter officials to provide vans to transport the families of the fallen firefighters to a memorial service on Thursday.

**Voluntary Agencies Active in Disaster (VOADs):** The Donations and Volunteer Reception programs were operational. Both were at the West Fest fairgrounds 1110 S. Main, West. The 10,000 sq. ft warehouse in Hillsboro is now full. A third warehouse has been established in Waco, with 100,000 sq. ft. that is 50% full. Aidmatrix, a warehouse database, has been implemented in Hillsboro. More than 6000 spontaneous volunteers have been processed at the Volunteer Reception Center (VRC), supplying volunteers to the Donations Program sorting and palletizing goods, as well as supplying volunteers to the Joint Assistance Center (JAC). The Joint Assistance Center at the Knights of Columbus Hall is providing resources to survivors. Texas VOAD partners are providing gift cards, case management, food, clothing and emotional and spiritual care. It is anticipated this 'one stop shop' for survivors will be operational until Friday (4-26) with hours of operation 9am-7pm. Following is listing of the Texas VOAD Organizations currently involved in activities in West: American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, Adventist Community Services, Aidmatrix, Information Technology Disaster Resource Center (ITDRC), One Star Foundation, Tzu Chi

Foundation, Catholic Charities, Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Society of St. Vincent de Paul USA, Southern Baptist of Texas Convention, Team Rubicon, Texas food Bank, and Victim Relief Ministries. Other organizations assisting are Austin Disaster Relief Network (ADRN), American Youth Works, various feeding ministries including Mercy Chefs, and the Catholic Diocese of Austin.

**Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC):** STRAC is supporting MIST personnel with patient tracking, using Texas Emergency Tracking Network (TxETN) resources. STRAC is also working to support WebEOC operations, and to provide support with STAR requests.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):** The Texas A&M Forest Service continues to assist at the West ICP. Currently we have 12 TFS personnel, along with 10 Type 3 IMT personnel at the West ICP. The TFS Mobile Command Post with the Communication trailer are at the ICP in West, Texas, which is in the process of being moved to West High School. The IMT continues to produce the Incident Action Plan as well as supporting Planning and Logistical functions and re-entry.

**Texas Baptist Men (TBM):** TBM volunteers assisted with parking for Sunday service held at the fairground field. The Comanche shower and laundry unit is available to residents and is located at the Knights of Columbus Hall. A childcare team is onsite monitoring the playground. The TBM shower and laundry unit at the West Fest Fairground is waiting for a water tanker before they begin serving the public.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** TCEQ continues to monitor air quality around the perimeter of the West Fertilizer Plant. At this time no ammonia is being detected in the air outside the plant footprint. TCEQ contractors along with Union Pacific Railroad Hazmat Teams removed the liquid anhydrous ammonia from the tanks and scrubbed the anhydrous vapors to make the tanks safe on Saturday evening. The Ammonium Nitrate pellets on the ground are covered with a tarp to prevent vaporization and the formation of any additional ammonia vapors and have been checked by Ammonium Nitrate Experts to develop a removal plan once the ongoing investigation is completed. Air monitoring is being conducted downwind of the Ammonium Nitrate to verify the effectiveness of these measures. TCEQ contractors removed approximately 4,300 gallons of liquid fertilizer from a damaged tank on Sunday at the request of the ATF and the State Fire Marshall so the tank could be moved as part of the investigation. TCEQ and US EPA moved their Command Posts to the High School forward operational base with the ATF and State Fire Marshall. A Storm Water Plan is currently being developed and will be implemented prior to any forecasted rain event to contain surface water runoff. EPA and TCEQ staff conducted soil sampling for pesticides and herbicides in the public areas downwind of the blast site and samples were sent off to the EPA lab for analysis. ***(Below is a photo of the Anhydrous Ammonia transfer and removal operation, courtesy of TCEQ.)***





**Texas Department of Insurance (TDI):** The Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) is providing assistance through the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO), its Consumer Protection resources, and the Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC) to assist those affected by the incident. As the lead fire investigation agency for Texas, SFMO staff is on-site and partnering with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to conduct a joint investigation of the incident. In addition, three fraud investigators have deployed to assist with the investigation. Also, insurance specialists are available at the Red Cross assistance center located in the Knights of Columbus Hall at 2547 Jerry Mashek in West. The center will be open 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday and Tuesday. TDI's Consumer Help Line hours have been extended to 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday - Friday. The toll-free TDI Consumer Help Line is 1-800-252-3439, and assistance is available in both English and Spanish. A webpage has been established for individuals affected by the disaster on the TDI website at: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/>. TDI is also coordinating with insurer representatives who are seeking access to the area. TDI encourages consumers and insurers to monitor the TDI webpage for further updates.

**Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Highway Patrol (THP):** Texas DPS continues provide coordination and control at the DDC level in West, Texas. Troopers, Agents, continue to provide traffic control and security in the impacted area. DPS Communications has a Command Trailer, Support Trailer along with personnel supporting the Waco DDC.

**Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS):** A 24/7 crisis hotline has been set up and the numbers are **254-752-3451** or **866-752-3451**. CISM still is being coordinated for the responders at the Church of Christ, 311 W. Tokio Road in West. On 042113, 60 responders (targeted EMS) attended CISM session in West. DBH has assisted 270 individuals since 041813. Tetanus shots will continue to be offered by Waco-McLennan County Health Department (WMCHD) at the point of re-entry until 5 p.m. today. Mental health professionals will be available close to re-entry to offer

services. Local MHMR is working on extending CISM for the children of first responders. Between 9:14 p.m. on 041713 and 8:50 a.m. on 042213, the Texas Poison Center Network reported 21 calls in relation to the fertilizer plant explosion in West on the evening of 041713. Nine of the calls were about potential exposures to the explosion; 12 were requests for information.

**DSHS Response Assets as of 042213**

<b>Responding/Deployed Personnel</b>	<b>Quantity/# Personnel</b>	<b>Resource Location</b>
Disaster Behavioral Health (DBH) Team	2	DDC/Waco
SMOC members	16	SMOC
Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM)	1	DDC/Waco
<i>Total Personnel</i>	19	

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** TxDOT is providing fuel to qualified emergency vehicles and has begun removing traffic barriers. Five personnel assigned to traffic control have been demobilized.

**Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):** TPWD Law Enforcement Division continues to assist with entry control to the scene and with reentry. TPWD has 28 Game Wardens on site. They will be conducting logistics, perimeter security, and roving site security through Wednesday, April 24, 2013 and law enforcement support with DPS Texas Highway Patrol (THP). Also, providing command staff at the DDC and DPS Command Trailer. As of 1630 on 04/21/13, the Forward Operations Command Post was moved north to the intersection of Meadow St. and Marable St. at the heliport in Zone C closest to the blast site.

**STATE AGENCY RESPONSE:** Activated state resources included

<b>State Council Agency/VOAD</b>	<b>Active Specialized Resources/Status Report</b>
2-1-1 (HHSC)	Texas Information Referral Network operational, receiving calls. 2-1-1 has noted an increase in calls for food, food stamps (SNAP), employment, volunteer opportunities and more permanent housing.
American Red Cross (ARC).	Shelter Coordination and Support, Emergency Response Vehicles (ERVs)
Civil Air Patrol (CAP)	Completed aerial photography in support of Search and Rescue Operations.
Communications Coordination Group (CCG)	AT&T provided a cellular on wheels (COW) to provide additional cellular communications capability

Department of State Health Services (DSHS)	DSHS physical State Medical Operations Center (SMOC) stood down, but remains activated virtually. All assets other than DSHS Regional staff at West ICP and 10-person Critical Incident Stress Management Team (CISM) have been demobilized and returned to home stations. CISM is available 10am to 10pm. Heart of Texas Regional Advisory Council (RAC) reports 150 assistance encounters as of 042013. Three ARC mobile first aid stations called up by West ICP IC now coordinated with Local Public Health. (These are not under ESF8 C&C.) Williamson County Health Department (WMCHD) is set up a tetanus vaccine clinic at the re-entry portal from 12-5pm 042113. WMCHD and DSHS PIO crafted "Precaution Guidance for West Disaster Recovery and Re-entry" guide and distributed to media sources.
Local Public and Mental Health	Developing re-entry Crisis Behavioral Health Plan with DSHS, MHMR, Waco Public Health, and volunteer agencies. Determining possible needs for families involved with re-entry.
Medical Incident Support Team (MIST)	Entering into ETN board and WebEOC receiving updates from hospitals on patient counts and discharges, tracking patient locations. Mobile Medical Unit (MMU) was demobilized.
Office of the Texas State Chemist (OTSC)	OTSC has dispatched Investigators as needed, to fulfill its role to assess the West Fertilizer site for ammonium nitrate security and to provide technical assistance, as needed, to the Incident command and responding agencies (i.e., Texas Commission for Environmental Quality, BATF, etc.) regarding possible residual fertilizer recovery.
Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS)	Personnel are activated at the Waco DDC, and 11 TFS personnel along with 10 Type 3 IMT personnel are at working at the West ICP. The TFS Mobile Command Post with communication trailer is at the ICP in West, Texas. Three Type 3 IMTs are restored, and available for assignment. Incident Management Team Planning Section. DDC Support, Planning, Liaison to Fire Departments, Chief of Party to Type 3 IMT. Type III IMT Team for re-entry.
Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC)	TAHC personnel continue to support the animal response in West with one veterinarian staffing the Incident Command Post and three Animal Health Inspectors supporting the West and Waco Animal Control. Waco animal shelter is tracking location of animals between Waco & West. 67 animals were moved to shelter on Friday. Large animal location and removal has been completed. Small animal location and removal on west side of tracks has been completed. Search of all locations complete and TAHC was demobilized at 1800 hrs on 042013. Any future issues can be resolved by callout if needed.
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	Air Quality Monitoring, monitoring water issues in town, boil water notice, planning for rotation of all crews. Working with Union Pacific to have 331 tankers on site to evacuate anhydrous ammonia tank.

Texas Department of Insurance (TDI)	Two TDI insurance specialists remain in West to assist consumers with contacting their insurers or agents, initiating their claims, and other insurance questions or concerns.
Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS) Highway Patrol	Support to DDC Waco, traffic control, security, local law enforcement support and management
Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)	Fuel Support Team providing fuel to qualified emergency vehicles. TxDOT has begun removing traffic barriers.
Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)	Regional State and District Coordinator staff to support DDC Waco and impacted local jurisdictions. Assist with a Temporary Morgue, Incident Management Team, and Donations Management. STAR Requests and support; received Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) plan for DEMOB and partial Disaster Summary Order. Outstanding STAR requests include 5 hand-washing stations and 2 dumpsters, which should be delivered by noon today. Family Assistance Center was closed.
Texas Education Agency (TEA)	Coordinating with local school district concerning damage to school(s).
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD)	Personnel are filling three 8-hour shifts per day to provide 24-hour coverage.
Texas State Insurance Board	One DDC representative was provided by the agency.
Texas Salvation Army	Providing canteen support for impacted citizens and first responders. Collection of donated items is at the TSTC student center
The State Fire Marshall's Office	Investigative support and personnel
TXDPS Criminal Investigations Division (CID)	Investigative support and personnel



Shelters					
Type	Name	Address	Capacity	Census	Status
GP	Lake Shore Drive Church of Christ	2800 Lake Shore Drive, Waco, Texas 76708	40-50	0	Upon request
GP	Blair's Cove Apartments Waco, TX 254-447-0810	2425 S 21 <sup>st</sup> St Waco, TX	25 Units	44	open
All shelters except those identified are reported to be closed.					

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The SOC is at Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions) and continues to provide needed support as requested. The Texas Division of Emergency Management is supporting the transition to recovery operations and coordinating needed state resource support as required. The next situation report will be published on Tuesday, April, 23, 2013.

**The four levels of SOC activation are:**

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at [www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem).*

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